F I G. 1

RETRIEVAL APPARATUS 1

QUESTION SENTENCE INPUT UNIT 2

DATABASE 3

RE-RETRIEVAL EXECUTION UNIT 4

RETRIEVAL EXECUTION UNIT 11

WORD CONTRIBUTION DEGREE CALCULATION UNIT 5

HIGH/LOW-SIMILARITY GROUP ACQUISITION UNIT 7

CONTRIBUTION DEGREE CALCULATION UNIT 8

OUTPUT UNIT 13

RETRIEVAL RESULT OUTPUT UNIT 12

WORD CONTRIBUTION OUTPUT UNIT 6

WORD DESIGNATION UNIT 9

WEIGHTING UNIT 10

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┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│  ┌─────────────────────────────────────────┐     │
│  │   ┌──────────────────────┐               │     │
│  │   │ QUESTION INPUT UNIT   │~ 21           │     │
│  │   └──────────────────────┘               │     │
│  │              │                            │     │
│  │   ┌──────────────────────┐               │     │
│  │   │ RETRIEVAL EXECUTION   │~ 22           │     │
│  │   │       UNIT            │               │     │
│  │   └──────────────────────┘               │     │
│  │              │                    23      │     │
│  │   ┌──────────────────────────┐           │     │
│  │   │ WORD CONTRIBUTION DEGREE  │           │     │
│  │   │   CALCULATION UNIT        │           │     │
│  │   └──────────────────────────┘           │     │
│  │              │                    24      │     │
│  │   ┌──────────────────────────┐           │     │
│  │   │ WORD CONTRIBUTION DEGREE  │           │     │
│  │   │      DISPLAY UNIT         │           │     │
│  │   └──────────────────────────┘           │     │
│  └─────────────────────────────────────────┘     │
│                                                   │
│  ┌─────────────────────────────────────────┐     │
│  │ ┌───────────────────────────────────┐   │     │
│  │ │ WORD WEIGHT MODIFICATION REQUEST  │   │     │
│  │ │          INPUT UNIT               │   │     │
│  │ └───────────────────────────────────┘   │     │
│  │                     │          ~25       │     │
│  │ ┌───────────────────────────────┐       │     │
│  │ │   MODIFIED WORD WEIGHT         │       │     │
│  │ │   CALCULATION UNIT             │~ 26   │     │
│  │ └───────────────────────────────┘       │     │
│  └─────────────────────────────────────────┘     │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

F I G. 2

START

INPUTS A RETRIEVAL
REQUEST — S1

EXECUTES SIMILARITY
RETRIEVAL — S2

OBTAINS THE N TOP
DOCUMENTS (A) OF THE
RETRIEVAL RESULT — S3

OBTAINS THE P
DOCUMENTS FROM THE
M—TH DOCUMENT OF THE
RETRIEVAL RESULT — S4

EXTRACTS ONE WORD
FROM THE RETRIEVAL
REQUEST — S5

S6 — THE LAST WORD?

NO — S7
CALCULATES THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THE RATIO OF THE
WORD IN A AND THE RATIO
OF THE WORD IN B

S8 — DESIGNATES THE
RESULT OF STEP S7 AS
A CONTRIBUTION
DEGREE

YES

CALCULATES BOTH THE
MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION
DEGREE MAX AND THE
MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION
DEGREE MIN — S9

SETS GRADATIONS
BETWEEN MAX AND MIN — S10

SELECTS FONT BASED
ON THE GRADATIONS — S11

DISPLAYS EACH WORD
USING FONT REFLECTING
THE CONTRIBUTION
DEGREE — S12

END

F I G. 3

```
                    ┌──────────┐
                    │  START   │
                    └────┬─────┘
                         │  S11
    ┌────────────────────┴────────────────────┐
    │ A USER DESIGNATES A WORD                 │
    │ THE CONTRIBUTION DEGREE                  │
    │ OF WHICH IS MODIFIED                     │
    └────────────────────┬────────────────────┘
                         │  S12
    ┌────────────────────┴────────────┐
    │ EXECUTES SIMILARITY              │
    │ RETRIEVAL                        │
    └────────────────────┬────────────┘
                         │  S13
    ┌────────────────────┴────────────┐
    │ ASSIGNS K=1                      │
    └────────────────────┬────────────┘
                         │  S14
    ┌────────────────────┴────────────┐
    │ ASSIGNS L=n                      │
    └────────────────────┬────────────┘
                         │
                         │         S15
                    ◇────┴────◇  YES
                   │  K=L?    │──────→
                    ◇────┬────◇
                         │ NO
                         │  S16
    ┌────────────────────┴────────────┐
    │ EXTRACTS THE K-TH                │
    │ DOCUMENT FROM THE                │
    │ RETRIEVAL RESULT                 │
    └──────────────────────────────────┘
```

S17

A WORD
THE CONTRIBUTION DEGREE
OF WHICH IS INSTRUCTED TO
MODIFY INCLUDED?

NO → END

YES

S18

SETS THE WEIGHT OF A TARGET
WORD SO THAT THE K-TH DOCUMENT
CAN BE RANKED TOP

S19

THE WEIGHT
OF THE WORD ALREADY
CALCULATED?

YES

S20

NO

WORD WEIGHT = WEIGHT
CALCULATED IN STEP S18 x
CORRECTION TERM

S21

WORD WEIGHT = AVERAGE OF
WEIGHT CALCULATED IN STEP
S18 x CORRECTION TERM AND
PREVIOUS WEIGHT

K=K+1

S22

F I G. 4

· PURPOSE

    − SEARCHES FOR A WORD hybrid car

· QUESTION SENTENCE

    − INPUTS IN A NATURAL LANGUAGE (REQUEST FORMAT TO A SEARCHER)

    − TAKE TREC Query NO. 385 AS AN EXAMPLE

    − Identify documents that discuss the current status of hybrid automobile
      engines, (i.e., cars fueled by something other than gasoline only.) A
      relevant document may include research on non-gasoline powered engines
      or prototypes that may be fueled by natural gas, methanol, alcohol; cost to
      the consumer, health benefits derived; and shortcomings in horsepower
      and passenger comfort.

F I G. 5

· A = TOP 10 DOCUMENTS
  · B = 200 DOCUMENTS FROM THE TOP 800 DOCUMENTS
  · CALCULATION EXPRESSION
  · CONTRIBUTION DEGREE CALCULATION EXPRESSION(Term Selection Value(Bougham formula))

$Tsv = (r/R - alpha* s/S) * w$
alpha = parameter
$w = r/(R-r)/(n-r)/(N-n-R+r)$
r = NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING A TARGET WORD, OF A
R = A
n = NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING A TARGET WORD
S = B
s = NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING A TARGET WORD, OF B
N = NUMBER OF ALL DOCUMENTS

F I G. 6

- fuel · 7.2
- methanol 6.8
- cars ·6.1
- gas 5.4
- automobile 5.1
- gasoline 4.8
- natural 4.5
- powered· 3.7
- alcohol 2.4
- engines 2.2
- consumer 2.1
- passenger 2.0
- prototypes 1.6
- research 1.0
- benefits 1.0
- derived 0.9
- health 0.7
- hybrid 0.6

FIG. 7

1	Fuel, methanol, cars
2	gas, automobile, gasoline, natural
3	powered, alcohol, engines, consumer, passenger
4	prototype, research, benefits, derived, health, hybrid

FIG. 8

1	cars hybrid
2	gas , automobile , gasoline , natural
3	powered , alcohol , engines , consumer , passenger
4	Fuel, prototype, research, benefits, derived , health,

MAXIMIZES THE CONTRIBUTION DEGREE
OF A WORD hybrid

DROPS THE CONTRIBUTION DEGREE OF
A WORD fuel

DELETES A WORD methanol

FIG. 9

	Cars	hybrid	gas	automobile	gasoline	natural	powered	alcohol	fuel
					3	1	2	1	5
1	5	0	1	1	3	1	2	1	5
2	4	0	1	0	3	1	2	1	5
3	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	3
:									
8	2	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	1
9									
10									
:									
:									
20									
:									
:									
:									
1000									

FIG. 10

	Cars	hybrid	gas	automobile	gasoline	natural	powered	alcohol	fuel
1	5	0	1	1	3	1	2	1	5
2	4	0	1	1	3	1	2	1	5
3	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	3
.									
.									
8	2	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	1
9									

- CALCULATION FOR RANKING UP A DOCUMENT, INCLUDING A WORD Hybrid

 - THE SCORES OF THE TOP AND EIGHTH DOCUMENTS ARE 19 AND 11, RESPECTIVELY
 - TO RANK UP THE EIGHTH DOCUMENT TO THE TOP, MULTIPLY THE WORD Hybrid BY 9
 - WEIGHT OF THE WORD Hybrid 3 = 9 x 1/log(8)

- CALCULATION FOR RANKING DOWN A DOCUMENT, INCLUDING A WORD fuel

 - THE SCORES OF THE TOP AND EIGHTH DOCUMENTS ARE 19 AND 11, RESPECTIVELY
 - TO BRING THE TOP DOCUMENT CLOSE TO THE EIGHT, SET THE WORD fuel TO 1 (THE MINIMUM)
 - WEIGHT OF THE WORD fuel 1/5 = 1/5 x 1/log (1)

F I G. 1 1

hybrid	5.3
cars	5.1
gas	4.8
automobile	4.6
gasoline	4.2
natural	4.1
fuel	4.1
powered	3.7
prototypes	3.4
alcohol	2.1
engines	1.3
consumer	1.1
passenger	1.0
research	0.9
benefits	0.5
derived	0.3
health	0.2

F I G.   12

- 1 hybrid ,cars ,gas , automobile
- 2 gasoline ,natural ,fuel ,powered,prototypes
- 3 alcohol · engines consumer passenger
- 4 research , benefits, derived, health

F I G. 13
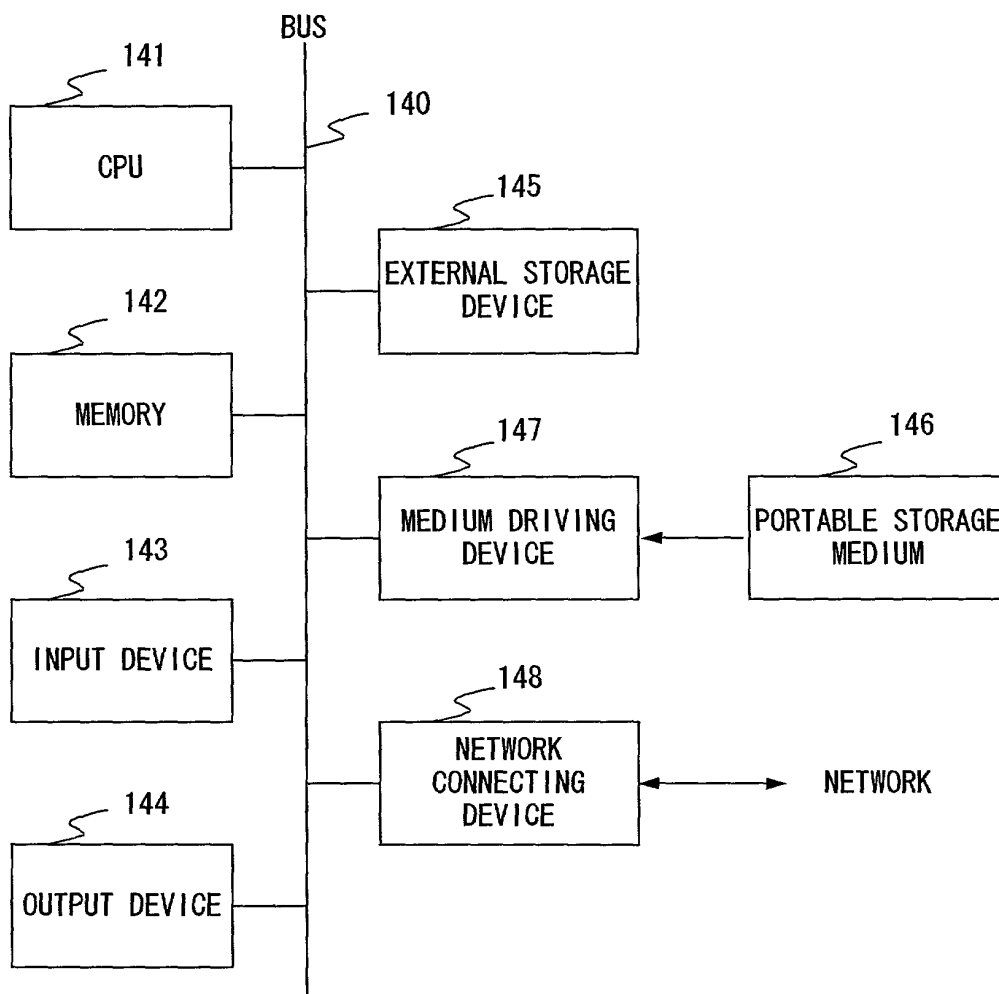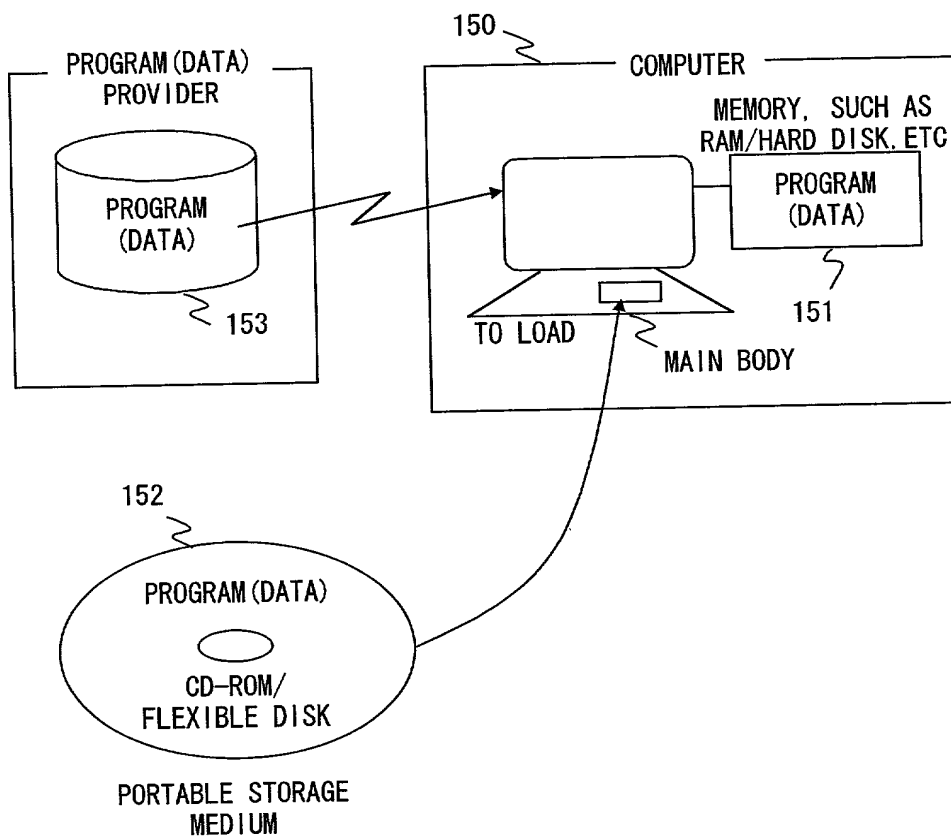
BUS

~ 141
~ 140

CPU

~ 145

EXTERNAL STORAGE
DEVICE

~ 142

MEMORY

~ 147   ~ 146

MEDIUM DRIVING
DEVICE   ◀   PORTABLE STORAGE
                           MEDIUM

~ 143

INPUT DEVICE

~ 148

NETWORK
CONNECTING   ◀───▶   NETWORK
DEVICE

~ 144

OUTPUT DEVICE

F I G. 1 4

PROGRAM(DATA)
PROVIDER

PROGRAM
(DATA)

153

150

COMPUTER

MEMORY, SUCH AS
RAM/HARD DISK, ETC

PROGRAM
(DATA)

151

TO LOAD

MAIN BODY

152

PROGRAM(DATA)

CD-ROM/
FLEXIBLE DISK

PORTABLE STORAGE
MEDIUM

F I G. 1 5